REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending and have been indicated as allowed if certain objections are overcome. Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19 and 21 are amended.

In paragraph 1, on page 2 of the Office Action, it was indicated the application was in condition for allowance except for certain formal matters. Specific language in claims 1, 3, 8, 15 and 19 was identified as forming the basis for the informalities. It was also requested that all claims be reviewed.

In reply, claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19 and 21 have been amended. It is submitted that the amendments do not change the scope of the claims, the claims having been allowed but for the informalities, and are not truly needed for patentability rather are to improve presentation by improving the claims readability. In claims 1, 10, 18 and 21, "predetermined" has been substituted for "different" in describing the toner color in each of the developing units as, when addressing a developing unit how can the developing agent be a different color. However, the developing agent of a developing unit is a predetermined color. Further, it is submitted that none of the amendments narrow the scope of any of the claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-21 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 15, 2004

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